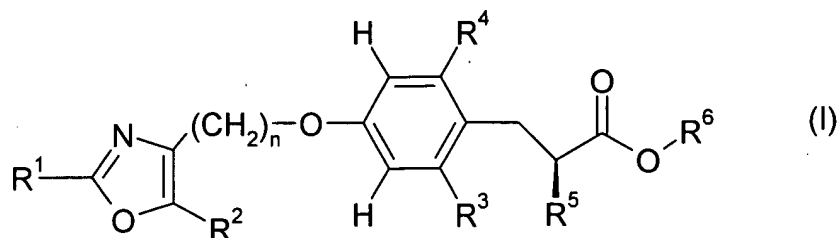


In the Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A compound of formula (I)



wherein

R¹ is aryl or heteroaryl;

R² is hydrogen, lower-alkyl, or fluoro-lower-alkyl;

R³ and R⁴ independently from each other are hydrogen, hydroxy, halogen, lower-alkyl, fluoro-lower-alkyl, hydroxy-lower-alkyl, lower-alkoxy-lower-alkyl, lower-alkoxy, fluoro-lower-alkoxy, hydroxy-lower-alkoxy, lower-alkoxy-lower-alkoxy, or lower-alkenyl, wherein at least one of R³ and R⁴ is not hydrogen;

R⁵ is lower-alkoxy, fluoro-lower-alkoxy, ~~lower-alkenyloxy~~, fluoro-lower-alkenyloxy, aryloxy, aryl-lower-alkoxy, or aryl-fluoro-lower-alkoxy;

R⁶ is hydrogen or lower-alkyl;

n is 1;

or pharmaceutically acceptable salts and/or pharmaceutically acceptable esters thereof.

2. (Original) The compound according to claim 1, wherein R¹ is phenyl optionally substituted with 1 to 3 substituents independently selected from the group consisting of lower-alkyl, lower-alkoxy, halogen, and fluoro-lower-alkyl.

3. (Original) The compound according to claim 1, wherein R¹ is phenyl optionally substituted with 1 to 2 substituents independently selected from the group consisting of lower-alkyl, lower-alkoxy, and halogen.

4. (Original) The compound according to claim 1, wherein R^1 is phenyl, 2-methyl-phenyl, 4-isopropoxy-phenyl, 4-fluoro-3-methyl-phenyl, 2-fluoro-phenyl, 4-isopropyl-phenyl, 2-ethoxy-4-fluoro-phenyl, 3-methoxy-phenyl, or 4-tert-butyl-phenyl.

5. (Currently amended) The compound according to claim 1, wherein R^2 is ~~hydrogen or~~ lower-alkyl.

6. (Currently amended) The compound according to claim 1, wherein R^2 is ~~hydrogen or~~ methyl.

7. (Original) The compound according to claim 6, wherein R^1 is phenyl, 2-methyl-phenyl, 4-isopropoxy-phenyl, 4-fluoro-3-methyl-phenyl, 2-fluoro-phenyl, 4-isopropyl-phenyl, 2-ethoxy-4-fluoro-phenyl, 3-methoxy-phenyl, or 4-tert-butyl-phenyl.

8. (Original) The compound according to claim 1, wherein R^3 and R^4 independently from each other are hydrogen, hydroxy, halogen, lower-alkyl, fluoro-lower-alkyl, or lower-alkoxy, wherein at least one of R^3 and R^4 is not hydrogen.

9. (Original) The compound according to claim 1, wherein R^3 is hydrogen or methyl.

10. (Original) The compound according to claim 1, wherein R^4 is methyl, ethyl, fluoro, chloro, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, methoxy, ethoxy, or isopropoxy.

11. (Original) The compound according to claim 9, wherein R^4 is methyl, ethyl, fluoro, chloro, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, methoxy, ethoxy, or isopropoxy.

12. (Original) The compound according to claim 11, wherein R^1 is phenyl, 2-methyl-phenyl, 4-isopropoxy-phenyl, 4-fluoro-3-methyl-phenyl, 2-fluoro-phenyl, 4-isopropyl-phenyl, 2-ethoxy-4-fluoro-phenyl, 3-methoxy-phenyl, or 4-tert-butyl-phenyl.

13. (Currently amended) The compound according to claim 12, wherein R² is ~~hydrogen or methyl~~.

14. (Original) The compound according to claim 1, wherein R⁵ is lower-alkoxy.

15. (Original) The compound according to claim 1, wherein R⁵ methoxy or ethoxy.

16. (Original) The compound according to claim 15, wherein R¹ is phenyl, 2-methyl-phenyl, 4-isopropoxy-phenyl, 4-fluoro-3-methyl-phenyl, 2-fluoro-phenyl, 4-isopropyl-phenyl, 2-ethoxy-4-fluoro-phenyl, 3-methoxy-phenyl, or 4-tert-butyl-phenyl.

17. (Currently amended) The compound according to claim 16, wherein R² is ~~hydrogen or methyl~~.

18. (Original) The compound according to claim 17, wherein R³ is hydrogen or methyl.

19. (Original) The compound according to claim 18, wherein R⁴ is methyl, ethyl, fluoro, chloro, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, methoxy, ethoxy, or isopropoxy.

20. (Original) The compound according to claim 1, wherein R⁶ is hydrogen.

21. (Original) The compound according to claim 19, wherein R⁶ is hydrogen.

22. (Original) The compound according to claim 1, wherein R¹ is phenyl substituted with methyl and/or fluorine, R² is lower-alkyl, R³ is hydrogen, R⁴ is lower-alkyl, R⁵ is lower-alkoxy, and R⁶ is hydrogen.

23. (Original) The compound according to claim 1, wherein R¹ is 2-methyl-phenyl or 2-fluoro-phenyl, R² is methyl, R³ is hydrogen, R⁴ is methyl, R⁵ is ethoxy, and R⁶ is hydrogen.

24. (Original) The compound according to claim 1, selected from the group consisting of
(S)-2-Ethoxy-3-[2-methyl-4-(5-methyl-2-o-tolyl-oxazol-4-ylmethoxy)-phenyl]-propionic acid,
(S)-2-Ethoxy-3-{4-[2-(4-isopropyl-phenyl)-5-methyl-oxazol-4-ylmethoxy]-2-methoxy-phenyl}-propionic acid,
(S)-2-Ethoxy-3-{4-[2-(4-isopropyl-phenyl)-5-methyl-oxazol-4-ylmethoxy]-2,6-dimethyl-phenyl}-propionic acid,
(S)-3-{4-[2-(4-tert-Butyl-phenyl)-5-methyl-oxazol-4-ylmethoxy]-2-ethoxy-phenyl}-2-ethoxy-propionic acid, and
(S)-3-{4-[2-(4-tert-Butyl-phenyl)-5-methyl-oxazol-4-ylmethoxy]-2-isopropoxy-phenyl}-2-ethoxy-propionic acid,
or pharmaceutically acceptable salts and/or pharmaceutically acceptable esters thereof.

25. (Original) The compound according to claim 1 selected from the group consisting of
(S)-2-Ethoxy-3-{4-[2-(4-isopropoxy-phenyl)-5-methyl-oxazol-4-ylmethoxy]-2-methyl-phenyl}-propionic acid, and
(S)-2-Ethoxy-3-{4-[2-(3-methoxy-phenyl)-oxazol-4-ylmethoxy]-2-methyl-phenyl}-propionic acid,
or pharmaceutically acceptable salts and/or pharmaceutically acceptable esters thereof.

26. (Original) The compound according to claim 1 selected from the group consisting of
(S)-2-Ethoxy-3-[2-methyl-4-(5-methyl-2-phenyl-oxazol-4-ylmethoxy)-phenyl]-propionic acid,

(S)-2-Ethoxy-3-[2-fluoro-4-(5-methyl-2-phenyl-oxazol-4-ylmethoxy)-phenyl]-propionic acid,
(S)-3-[2-Chloro-4-(5-methyl-2-phenyl-oxazol-4-ylmethoxy)-phenyl]-2-ethoxy-propionic acid,
(S)-2-Ethoxy-3-[4-(5-methyl-2-phenyl-oxazol-4-ylmethoxy)-2-trifluoromethyl-phenyl]-propionic acid,
(S)-3-[2,6-Dimethyl-4-(5-methyl-2-phenyl-oxazol-4-ylmethoxy)-phenyl]-2-ethoxy-propionic acid,
(S)-3-{2-Hydroxy-4-[2-(5-methyl-2-phenyl-oxazol-4-yl)-ethoxy]-phenyl}-2-methoxy-propionic acid, and
(S)-2-Ethoxy-3-{2-methyl-4-[3-(5-methyl-2-phenyl-oxazol-4-yl)-propoxy]-phenyl}-propionic acid,
or pharmaceutically acceptable salts and/or pharmaceutically acceptable esters thereof.

27. (Original) The compound according to claim 1 selected from the group consisting of
(S)-2-Ethoxy-3-{4-[2-(4-fluoro-3-methyl-phenyl)-5-methyl-oxazol-4-ylmethoxy]-2-methyl-phenyl}-propionic acid,
(S)-2-Ethoxy-3-{2-ethyl-4-[2-(4-fluoro-3-methyl-phenyl)-5-methyl-oxazol-4-ylmethoxy]-phenyl}-propionic acid, and
(S)-3-{2-Chloro-4-[2-(4-fluoro-3-methyl-phenyl)-5-methyl-oxazol-4-ylmethoxy]-phenyl}-2-ethoxy-propionic acid,
or pharmaceutically acceptable salts and/or pharmaceutically acceptable esters thereof.

28. (Original) The compound according to claim 1 selected from the group consisting of
(S)-2-Ethoxy-3-{4-[2-(2-fluoro-phenyl)-5-methyl-oxazol-4-ylmethoxy]-2-methyl-phenyl}-propionic acid,
(S)-3-{2-Chloro-4-[2-(2-fluoro-phenyl)-5-methyl-oxazol-4-ylmethoxy]-phenyl}-2-ethoxy-propionic acid, and

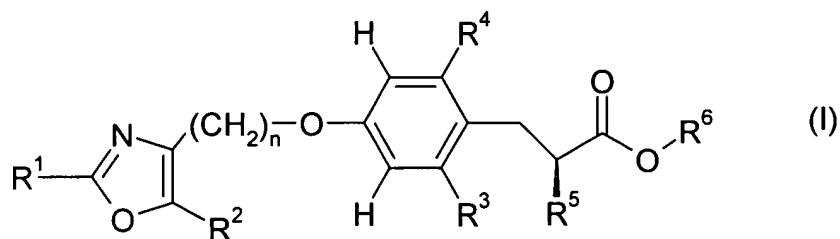
(S)-2-Ethoxy-3-(4-{2-[2-(2-ethoxy-4-fluoro-phenyl)-5-methyl-oxazol-4-yl]-ethoxy}-2-methyl-phenyl)-propionic acid,
or pharmaceutically acceptable salts and/or pharmaceutically acceptable esters thereof.

29. (Original) The compound according to claim 1, which is (S)-2-Ethoxy-3-{4-[2-(2-fluoro-phenyl)-5-methyl-oxazol-4-ylmethoxy]-2-methyl-phenyl}-propionic acid or pharmaceutically acceptable salts and/or pharmaceutically acceptable esters thereof.

30. (Canceled)

31. (Canceled)

32. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to formula (I)



wherein

R¹ is aryl or heteroaryl;

R² is ~~hydrogen~~, lower-alkyl, or fluoro-lower-alkyl;

R³ and R⁴ independently from each other are hydrogen, hydroxy, halogen, lower-alkyl, fluoro-lower-alkyl, hydroxy-lower-alkyl, lower-alkoxy-lower-alkyl, lower-alkoxy, fluoro-lower-alkoxy, hydroxy-lower-alkoxy, lower-alkoxy-lower-alkoxy, or lower-alkenyl, wherein at least one of R³ and R⁴ is not hydrogen;

R⁵ is lower-alkoxy, fluoro-lower-alkoxy, ~~lower-alkenyloxy~~, fluoro-lower-alkenyloxy, aryloxy, aryl-lower-alkoxy, or aryl-fluoro-lower-alkoxy;

R⁶ is hydrogen or lower-alkyl;

n is 1;

or pharmaceutically acceptable salts and/or pharmaceutically acceptable esters thereof;
and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and/or adjuvant.

33. (Canceled)

34. (Canceled)

35. (Canceled)